United Nations S/2001/958

Security Council

Distr.: General
11 October 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 10 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am rather pleased that you are conducting the work of the Security Council during this crucial month of October.

During this period, the Security Council will not only hold a key meeting on Angola but in particular will deliberate on the work of the sanctions committee and the Monitoring Mechanism to which you have been dedicating so much of your time and great commitment. Sanctions are indeed the most valuable tool that the international community has put in place to assist Angola in returning to peace. Your dedication to peace in Angola has been the sound foundation on which the work of both the Committee and the Monitoring Mechanism stands. The people of Angola will be ever grateful to you when, tomorrow, we jointly celebrate peace in that country.

Please find attached the letter which the Minister of External Relations has addressed to you with the request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismael A. Gaspar **Martins**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-57630 (E) 111001

Annex to the letter dated 10 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Republic of Angola
Minister for External Relations

Luanda, 8 October 2001

In the coming days, the Security Council is going to discuss the question of Angola, based on the report to be submitted by the sanctions Committee set up under resolution 864 (1993). The Angolan Government considers this to be an opportunity for the members of the Security Council to make another assessment of the positive impact of the sanctions, which have significantly helped reduce the capability of the militarist wing of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) to wage war, and have also helped identify the mechanisms to ensure their full implementation.

The pressure put on UNITA's militarist wing by the international community in the political, diplomatic, financial, trade and immigration areas is showing positive results: UNITA's ability to acquire war materiel was seriously hampered, its armed attacks ceased to be a threat to the existence of Angolan democratic institutions and its activity today is reduced to acts of terrorism, such as the recent attack on a passenger train at Zena do Itombe, which killed more than 250 people, an act of terrorism that was strongly condemned by the Security Council, and also the attack on a power station in the town of Viana, near Luanda. An increasing number of members of UNITA's militarist wing have rejected the war path and are being integrated into society; the democratic process in Angola is being strengthened and our country's economy, although still in a crisis, is starting to show signs of revitalization.

For those reasons, my Government continues to advocate the need to keep the sanctions until the goals for which they were imposed are met, and that means until UNITA's militarist wing definitely rejects the option of violent action and embraces the path of peace in Angola.

We are convinced that an increased pressure by the international community on UNITA's militarist wing led by Mr. Savimbi will considerably increase its isolation and help force UNITA to abide by the Lusaka Protocol and to fulfil the pertinent Security Council resolutions, which are the instruments that set forth the framework for achieving peace in Angola.

Therefore, the Angolan Government believes that the time has come for the members of the Security Council to impose new restrictive measures against UNITA's militarist wing, namely in the area of telecommunications, under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations and paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1295 (2000).

At the same time, in order to ensure the full implementation and the success of this mission, it is crucial to secure an extension of the mechanism for the monitoring of the sanctions and the maintenance of the necessary human resources.

In the face of the hideous and barbaric nature of the systematic acts of violence perpetrated by the UNITA militarist wing against the defenceless civilian population

in Angola and against our country's economic and social infrastructure, with the destruction of roads, bridges, water treatment and power plants, farm land, etc., the Security Council should not abstain from making an assessment of the situation and taking a firm stand against those who are mainly responsible for these acts which can only be characterized as acts of terrorism, the kind against which the international community has united to combat and eradicate.

(*Signed*) João Bernardo **de Miranda**
Minister for External Relations of the Republic of Angola